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### Jud has four starters back as Griz open roundball practice Oct. 15

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JUD HAS FOUR STARTERS BACK AS GRIZ  
OPEN ROUND BALL PRACTICE OCT. 15

fulz/rb

10-11-74

sports local + state + B. S. media



## sports

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### MISSOULA--

Basketball practice begins Tuesday, Oct. 15 for the University of Montana hoop squad, and Coach Jud Heathcote is looking to the 1974-75 campaign with optimism.

"Since four starters return, and considering last year's record, I anticipate a good season," Heathcote said. "I believe we will be contenders for the Big Sky championship and that we deserve to be listed as one of the favorites in the title chase."

Heathcote actually has five returnees with starting experience. Most notable among the total of eight returning lettermen is All-Big Sky center Ken McKenzie. McKenzie, a 6-9 senior, was a unanimous selection to the all-conference team last year with his respective 18.7 and 11.1 point and rebound averages.

Three players, 6-3 Eric Hays, 6-6 Larry Smedley and 6-7 Tim Stambaugh, have starting experience at forward. Hays was second team all-league last year, averaging 11.3 points and 6.4 rebounds.

Sophomore guard Ben DeMers started all 27 Grizzly games last year. The 6-3 youngster averaged nine points.

Guards Mark Nord and Tom Peck, and forward Tim Blaine round out the list of returning lettermen.

Last year's 19-8 record was the best for a UM team in 24 years. Heathcote feels the 1974-75 team will have difficulty matching that mark.

"The schedule is much tougher this year, especially our nonconference road games," Heathcote said. "But this will serve as good preparation for the Big Sky schedule."

An appearance in the Sun Devil Classic highlights the nonconference slate. Montana, host Arizona State, Long Beach State and Nebraska are the teams entered in the two-day tourney. Montana also visits Colorado State, Hawaii, Santa Barbara and Portland State.

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The 12-game home schedule includes all seven Big Sky opponents, San Jose State, Portland University, Seattle University, Puget Sound and the College of Great Falls.

Montana finished second in the Big Sky Conference last year, losing a playoff game with Idaho State, 60-57, at the completion of the regular season.

The Grizzlies reeled off a school record tying 13-game win streak, set Big Sky and school attendance records and grabbed national ranking in two statistical categories last year. The Tips ranked 10th in average margin of victory and 15th in team defense.

##

UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA  
1974-75 GRIZZLY BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>(Day)</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Site</u>
Nov. 30	(Saturday)	Colorado State	Fort Collins, Colorado
Dec. 3	(Tuesday)	College of Great Falls	Missoula
Dec. 6	(Friday)	Sun Devil Classic (UM, Nebraska, Arizona State, Long Beach State)	Tempe, Arizona
7	(Saturday)		
Dec. 9	(Monday)	San Jose State	Missoula
Dec. 14	(Saturday)	Portland University	Missoula
Dec. 19	(Thursday)	Seattle University	Missoula
Dec. 21	(Saturday)	Santa Barbara	Santa Barbara, Calif.
Dec. 23	(Monday)	Portland State	Portland, Oregon
Dec. 30	(Monday)	Puget Sound	Missoula
Jan. 3	(Friday)	*Weber State	Missoula
Jan. 4	(Saturday)	*Northern Arizona	Missoula
Jan. 10	(Friday)	*Montana State	Missoula
Jan. 17	(Friday)	University of Hawaii	Honolulu, Hawaii
Jan. 18	(Saturday)	University of Hawaii	Honolulu, Hawaii
Jan. 25	(Saturday)	*Montana State	Bozeman, Montana
Jan. 31	(Friday)	*Gonzaga University	Spokane, Washington
Feb. 1	(Saturday)	*University of Idaho	Moscow, Idaho
Feb. 7	(Friday)	*Gonzaga University	Missoula
Feb. 8	(Saturday)	*University of Idaho	Missoula
Feb. 14	(Friday)	*Boise State	Boise, Idaho
Feb. 15	(Saturday)	*Idaho State	Pocatello, Idaho
Feb. 21	(Friday)	*Boise State	Missoula
Feb. 22	(Saturday)	*Idaho State	Missoula
Feb. 27	(Thursday)	*Weber State	Ogden, Utah
March 1	(Saturday)	*Northern Arizona	Flagstaff, Arizona

\*Big Sky Conference game